

Application No. 09/696,754

Attorney Docket No.: 26119-136C US1

Amendments of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented networked commercial interaction management method, comprising the steps of:

distributing information bundles from different ones of a first plurality of different networked users to different ones of a second plurality of different networked users according to a machine-readable format that includes values for a plurality of content attribute descriptors, wherein each of the information bundles includes values for a plurality of information fields characterizing commercial interactions associated with at least one of the first and second plurality of different networked users, and wherein a portion of said content attribute descriptors include business language definition descriptors that specify the descriptive metadata of each of the information bundles, wherein the business language definition descriptors comprise at least one keyword having at least one value;

monitoring the distribution from the first plurality of different networked users to the second plurality of different networked users by a statistics engine;

monitoring at least one response from the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine;

managing commercial interactions between at least one of the first plurality of different networked users and at least one of the second plurality of different networked users using the information bundles; and

based on values for the content attribute descriptors;

based on the at least one keyword and the at least one value of the business language definition descriptors, deriving first traffic statistics based on the distribution from the first plurality of different networked users to the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine; and

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based on the at least one keyword and the at least one value of the business language definition descriptors, deriving second traffic statistics based on the at least one response from the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine for the step of distributing the information bundles.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further including the step of converting the first traffic statistics and the second traffic statistics into billing amounts.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein the step of converting converts traffic to different destinations to different billing amounts.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein the step of converting converts traffic to billing amounts for events requested by programmed bundle processing logic between the different users.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2 wherein the step of converting converts traffic to billing amounts for operations that are executed by programmed bundle processing logic.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of deriving first traffic statistics and deriving second traffic statistics derive[[s]] statistics about the presentation of offer bundles and acceptance rates for these offer bundles.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of deriving first traffic statistics and deriving second traffic statistics derive[[s]] statistics about the types of bundles transferred and information profiles for users involved in the transfers.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further including the step of transferring the first traffic statistics and second traffic statistics to buy-side users.

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Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of deriving first traffic statistics and deriving second traffic statistics operate[[s]] substantially continuously in near-real time.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the bundles distributed in the step of distributing include a data element reference and meta data describing the data element, and wherein each data element remains resident on a node of a data owner in a network.

Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of deriving first traffic statistics and deriving second traffic statistics derive[[s]] statistics about at least one ticker symbol field.

Claims 13 – 58 (Canceled)

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein a different portion from the portion of said content attribute descriptors includes bundle descriptors.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein a different portion from the portion of said content attribute descriptors includes target descriptors.

Claim 61 (Canceled)

Claim 62 (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[6]]1, wherein said at least one keyword[[s]] comprise at least one of Sector, Ticker, Region, Country, Author, Firm, and Bundle Type.

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Claim 63 (Currently Amended): The method of claim [[6]]1, wherein said at least one value[[s]] attached-to-said-keywords are standardized through community agreement.

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of distributing further comprises executing events in at least one event table-using at least one event table, wherein:

the at least one event table provides a sequence of activities with priorities, dependencies, execution methods, and requirements for actions on objects managed by an aggregation server; and

the at least one event table is defined based on at least one of bundle type, destination address, author, user role, or user definable properties.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the information bundles comprise a bundle header, routing data, metadata, and bundle contents.

Claim 66 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein steps of deriving first traffic statistics and deriving second traffic statistics further comprises deriving at least one of real-time statistics and historical statistics.

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 65, wherein traffic statistics are used to perform at least one of judging the value of commercial partners, evaluating potential partners, and evaluating the market as a whole.

Claims 68-87 (Canceled)

Claim 88 (Currently Amended): A computer implemented networked commercial interaction management method, comprising the steps of:

distributing information bundles according to a machine-readable format that includes values for content attribute descriptors and values for information fields characterizing commercial interactions associated with at least one of first networked users and one of second

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networked users, and wherein a portion of said content attribute descriptors include business language definition descriptors that specify descriptive metadata of each of the information bundles, said information bundles adapted to be received from at least one of the first networked users and adapted to be sent to at least one of the second networked users wherein the business language definition descriptors comprise at least one keyword having at least one value;

monitoring the distribution from the first plurality of different networked users to the second plurality of different networked users by a statistics engine;

monitoring at least one response from the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine;

managing commercial interactions between the at least one of the first networked users and the at least one of the second networked users using the information bundles; and

based on values for the content attribute descriptors;

based on the at least one keyword and the at least one value of the business language definition descriptors, deriving first traffic statistics based on the distribution from the first plurality of different networked users to the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine; and

based on the at least one keyword and the at least one value of the business language definition descriptors and based on the at least one response from the second plurality of different networked users, deriving second traffic statistics based on the at least one response from the second plurality of different networked users by the statistics engine for the step of distributing the information bundles.

Claim 89 (Canceled)

Claim 90 (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing events in at least one event table, wherein:

the at least one event table provides a sequence of activities with priorities, dependencies, execution methods, and requirements for actions on objects managed by an aggregation server; and

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the at least one event table is defined based on at least one of bundle type, destination address, author, user role, or user definable properties; and

the at least one event table defines an authentication sequence for validating the first plurality of different networked users by the second plurality of different networked users;

generating a first token;

sending the token to the aggregation server;

matching the first token with a second token to validate the first plurality of different networked users; and

converting the first traffic statistics and the second traffic statistics into billing amounts, wherein the converting converts traffic to different destinations to different billing amounts;